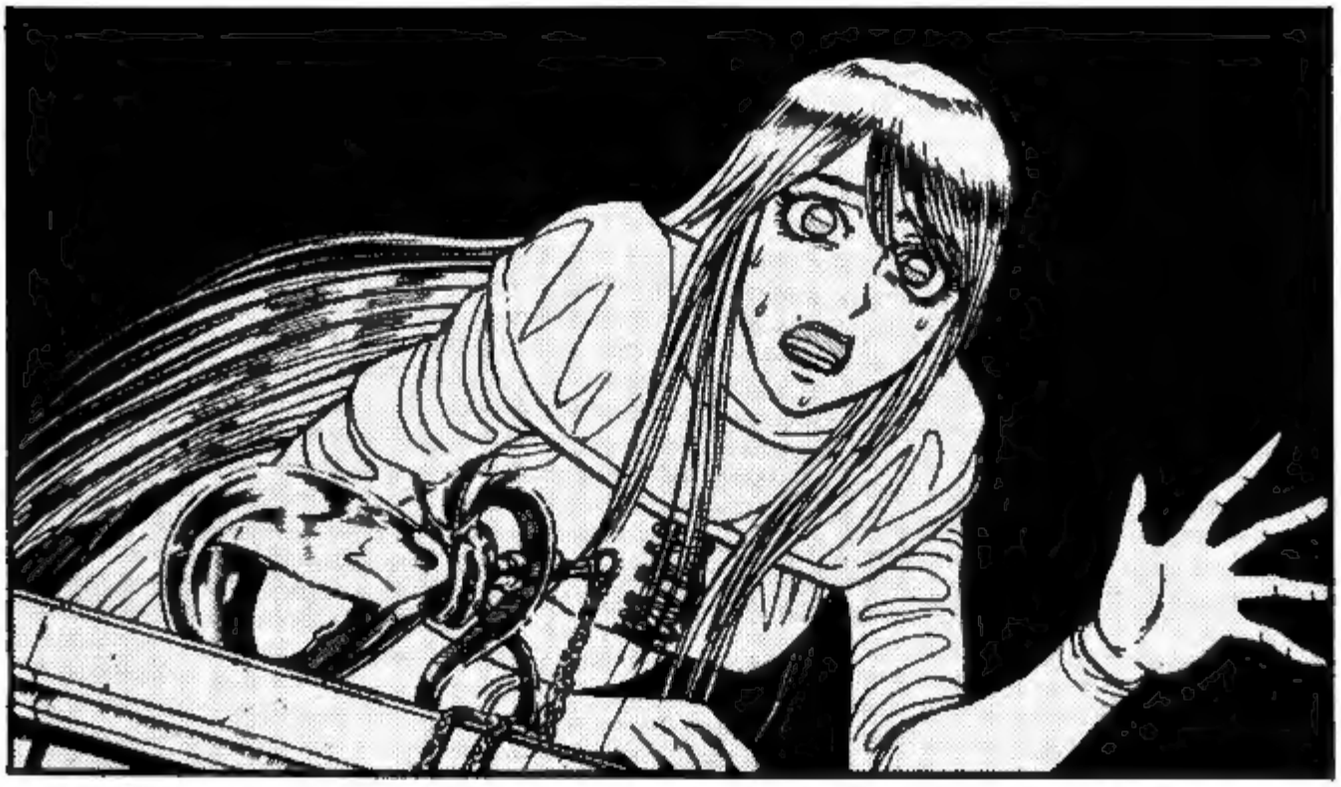
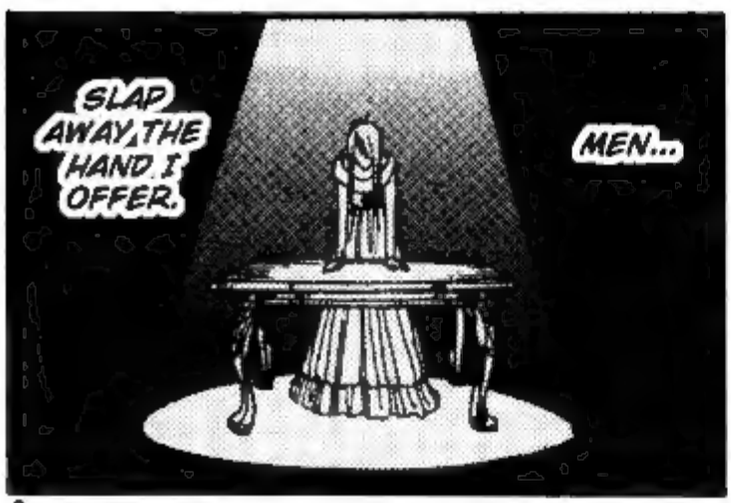
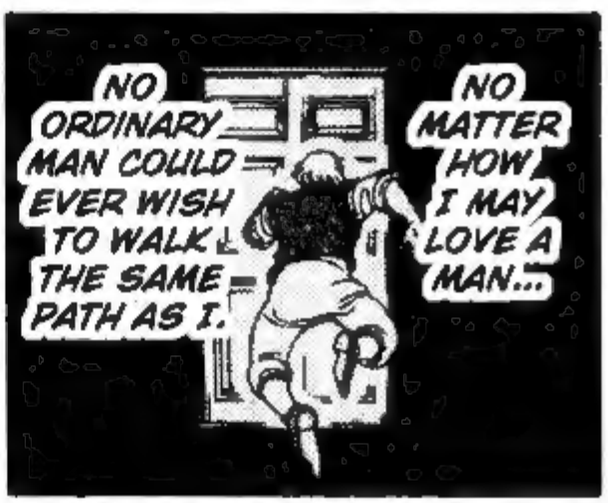
# Act 18 A Journey Together

AS THOUGH I WERE AN OBJECT.
MEN CAST ME ASIDE...
MOTHER...
NO MATTER HOW DEEP OUR BOND MAY FEEL.
NO MAT- TER HOW WELL WE MAY GET ALONG.
THIS ENTIRE TIME?
YOU WERE HIDING A SECRET LIKE THIS FROM ME...
ANGELINA, WHY...?
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU ALWAYS...
PLEASE FORGIVE ME, THOMAS.
THAT'S JUST BEING A MONSTER!
THAT ...
I DON'T WANT TO BE IMMORTAL!
NO WAY!




SLAP AWAY THE HAND I OFFER.
MEN...


NO ORDINARY MAN COULD EVER WISH TO WALK THE SAME PATH AS I.
NO MATTER HOW I MAY LOVE A MAN...



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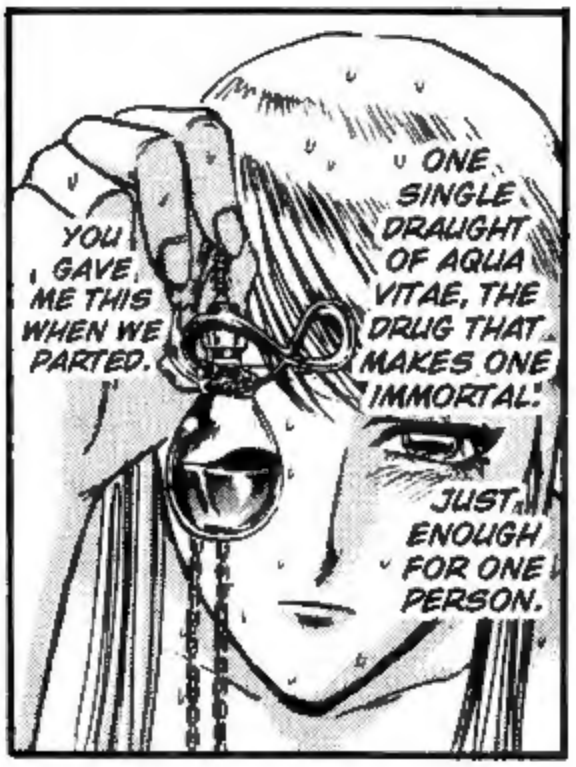
TO A MAN YOU BELIEVE WILL WALK BESIDE YOU FOR ALL ETERNITY.
GIVE THAT TO SOME-BODY.


YOU GAVE ME THIS WHEN WE PARTED.
ONE SINGLE DRAUGHT OF AQUA VITAE, THE DRUG THAT MAKES ONE IMMORTAL.
JUST ENOUGH FOR ONE PERSON.

HOWEVER, IF THAT TIME WERE USED FOR SOME-THING ELSE..." SOME MEANING MIGHT BE FOUND EVEN IN THESE CURSED BODIES.
SHIROGANE USE EVERY MOMENT OF OUR LONG LIVES FOR DESTROYING AUTOMATA.

NOT ANY-WHERE.
THERE IS NO MAN WHO WILL WALK BY MY SIDE.

MOTHER... I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEANT...
USE THAT TIME FOR SOMETHING ELSE...?

WHAT'LL I DO AFTER THAT? HEAD FOR THE BIG CITY, AND SPEND MY LIFE DRINKING WITH OTHER WOMEN, HAVING ALL THE FUN I WANT, TILL THE END OF TIME!
SO THAT DRUG'S THE REASON YOU'RE SO STRONG, ANGELINA? GIVE IT HERE. I'LL DRINK IT.
DO YOU STILL HAVE A HUMAN BODY?, HOW 'BOUT LETTING US HAVE A PEEK?
HEH HEH HEH, SO YOU'RE HER? THE IMMORTAL WOMAN?
I MADE UP MY MIND TO FORGET THE AQUA VITAE...
EITHER THEY FLED AS THOUGH FROM A MONSTER, OR WERE TOYING WITH ME OUT OF INTEREST IN THE AQUA VITAE.
I OFFERED UP MY LIFE TO DIFFERENT MEN, BUT ONE AND ALL...
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AND CAME HERE, HOPING TO HIDE MYSELF AWAY AND PASS MY TIME IN A PEACEFUL PLACE.

BUT TODAY I LOST THAT, TOO.

FOR-EVER.
YOU MADE ME ALONE, MOTHER.
I WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THAT. I WILL RESENT YOU...
I'M COLD ...
I'M SO COLD, MOTHER.
JUST FORGET HIM... HE MUST THINK OF YOU AS A MONSTER, TOO, AFTER SEEING YOU FAIL TO BURN.

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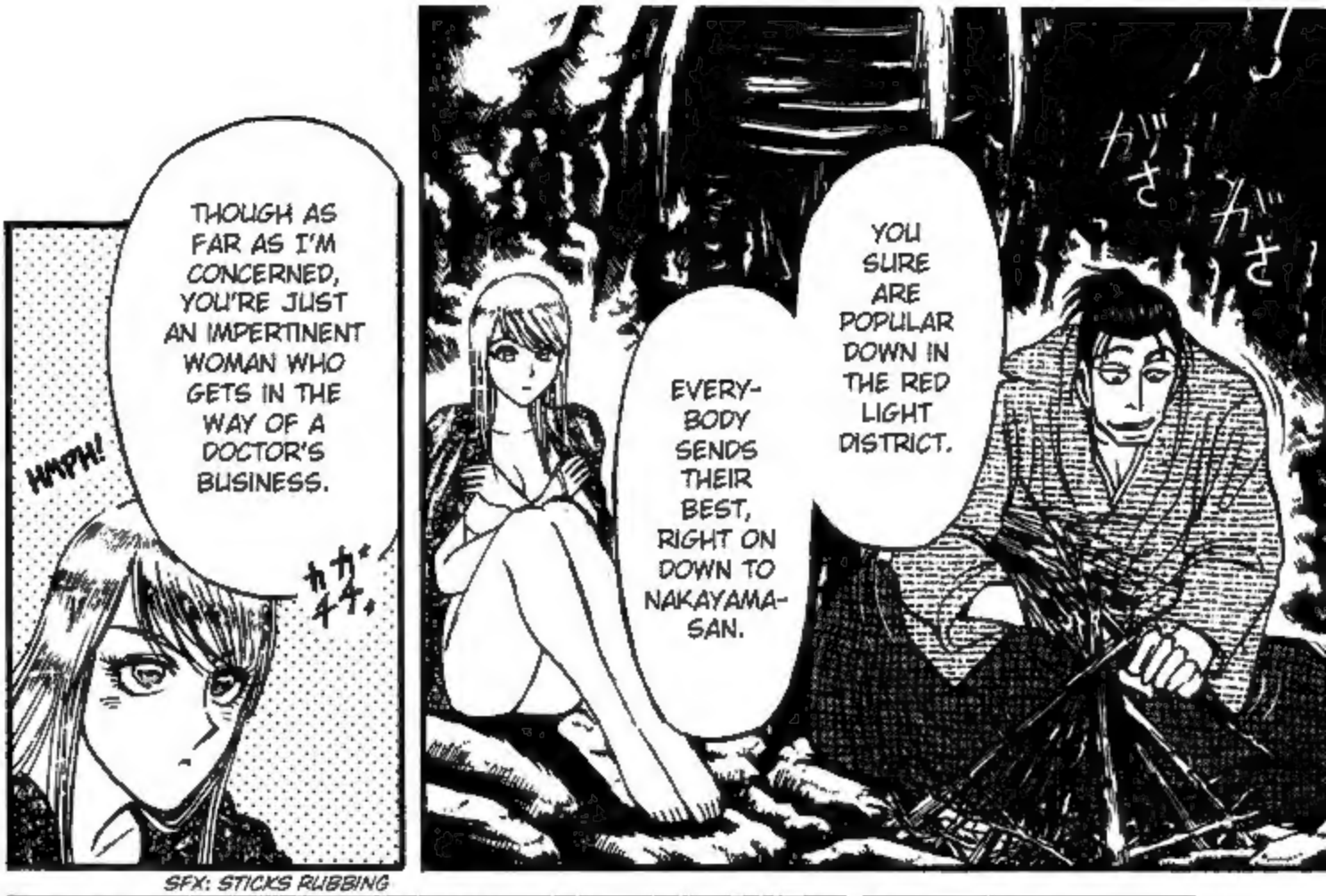
!
SH-... SHOU-JIROU...
WHY ARE YOU HERE?

TO THE OF-FICIALS?! SO THEY CAN ARREST ME?!
IS IT SO YOU CAN REPORT BACK ...
COVER UP! YOU'LL CATCH YOUR DEATH SITTIN' AROUND NAKED IN THIS COLD!


HMPH!
THOUGH AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, YOU'RE JUST AN IMPERTINENT WOMAN WHO GETS IN THE WAY OF A DOCTOR'S BUSINESS.
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EVERY-BODY SENDS THEIR BEST, RIGHT ON DOWN TO NAKAYAMA-SAN.
YOU SURE ARE POPULAR DOWN IN THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT.
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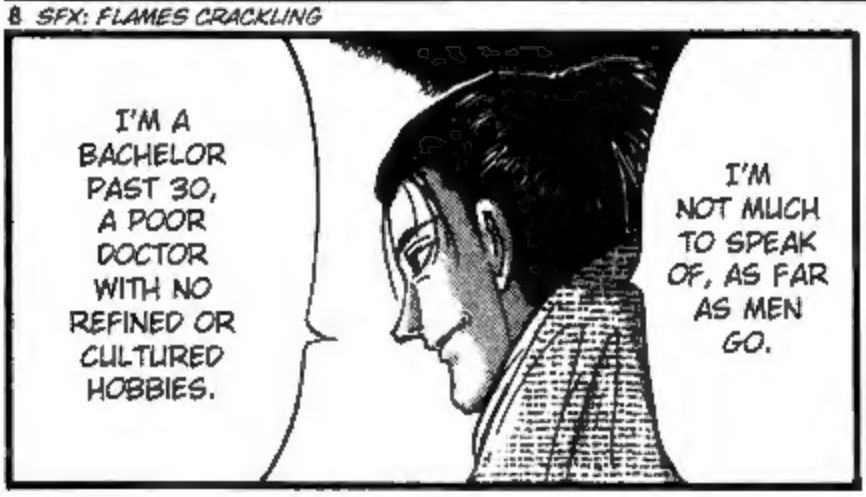
SFX: STICKS RUBBING

8 SFX: FLAMES CRACKLING

SFX: FIRE STARTING



IF YOU TELL YOUR STORY, WE CAN GET MAD TOGETHER AND CRY TOGETHER.
BUT ...

NO...

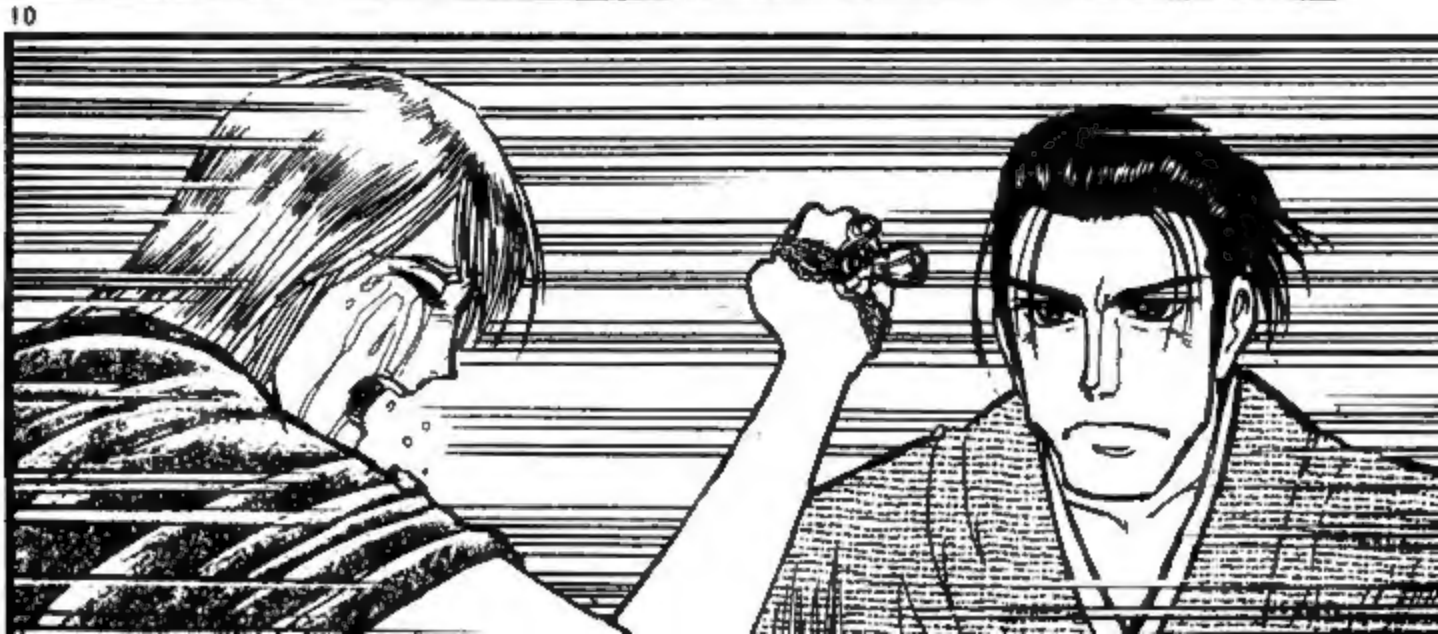
HOW ABOUT IT? WANNA TRY TELLING ME THOSE FEELINGS ...
YOU'VE KEPT BOTTLED UP IN-SIDE?

DON'T... DON'T DO IT, ANGELINA... DON'T OPEN UP YOUR HEART...!

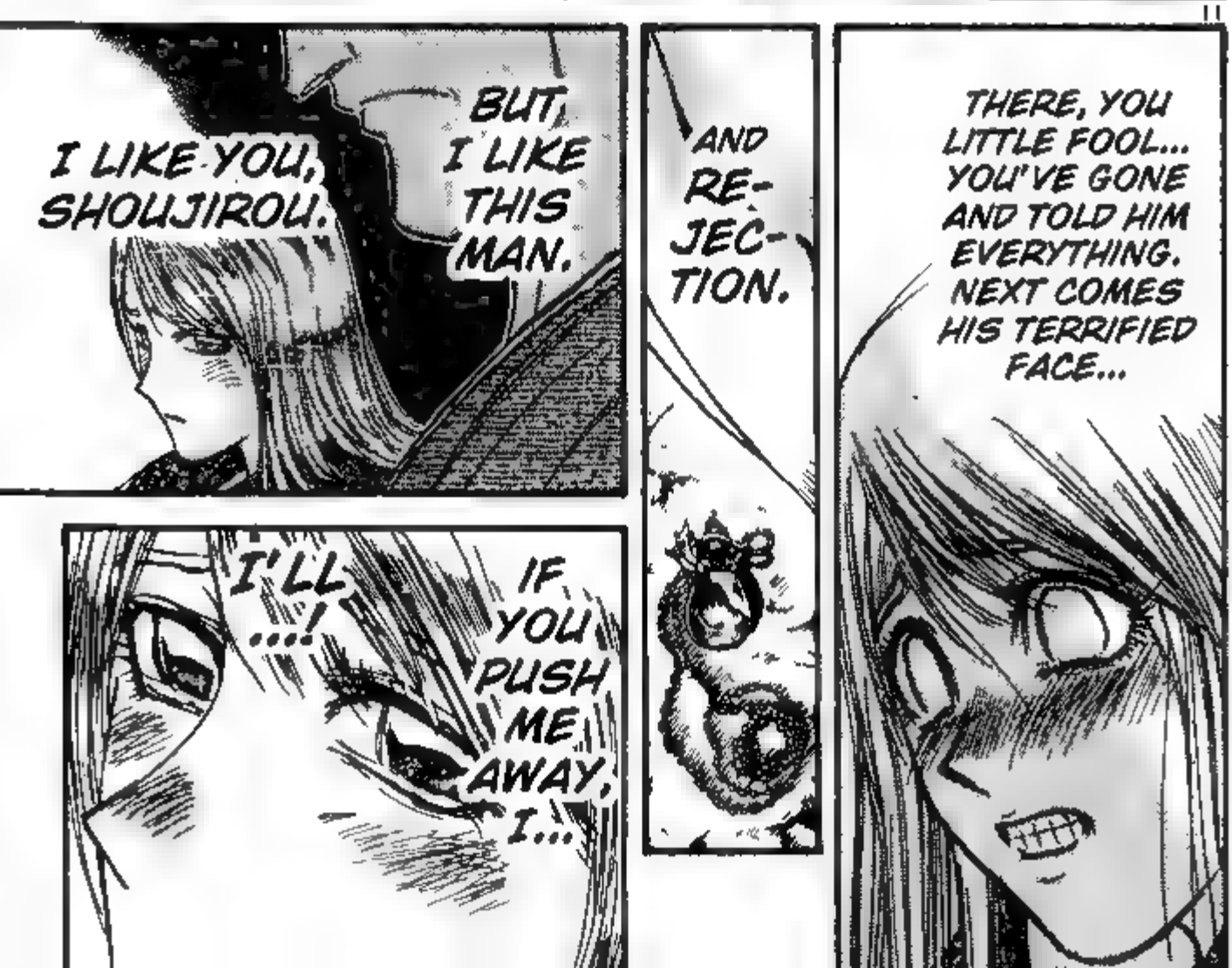
JUST LIKE THOSE OTHER MEN...
WHO PUSHED ME AWAY ...

IF IT DOES, THEN ONCE AGAIN ...
ONCE AGAIN, MY HAND WILL BE SLAPPED AWAY!

MY HEART IS BRIMMING OVER AT THOSE WORDS...



THIS CURSED BODY WILL STAY MINE, AND MINE ALONE ...
BUT I WILL NOT GIVE THIS ELIXIR OF IMMORTALITY TO ANYONE, NOW.
MY MOTHER GAVE ME THIS MEDICINE AND CAST ME OUT.
DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW?


I LIKE YOU, SHOUJIROU.
BUT, I LIKE THIS MAN.
I'LL ....!
IF YOU PUSH ME AWAY, I...
AND RE-JEC-TION.
THERE, YOU LITTLE FOOL... YOU'VE GONE AND TOLD HIM EVERYTHING. NEXT COMES HIS TERRIFIED FACE...

YOU WERE VERY IMPORTANT TO YOUR MOTHER.
SOUNDS LIKE...

BUT... SHE SENT ME AWAY!
WHAT?
.....
THE ONLY WAY TO SET YOUR IMMORTAL DAUGHTER FREE...
IS TO GIVE HER SOME WAY TO CREATE A HUSBAND TO WALK BY HER SIDE.
NO PARENT WOULD SEND THEIR OWN CHILD AWAY WITHOUT SOME REASON.
YOUR MOTHER WAS DELIBERATELY CRUEL SO SHE COULD RELEASE YOU FROM A SERIOUS RESPONSIBILITY.
GO AND WALK...
YOUR OWN PATH.
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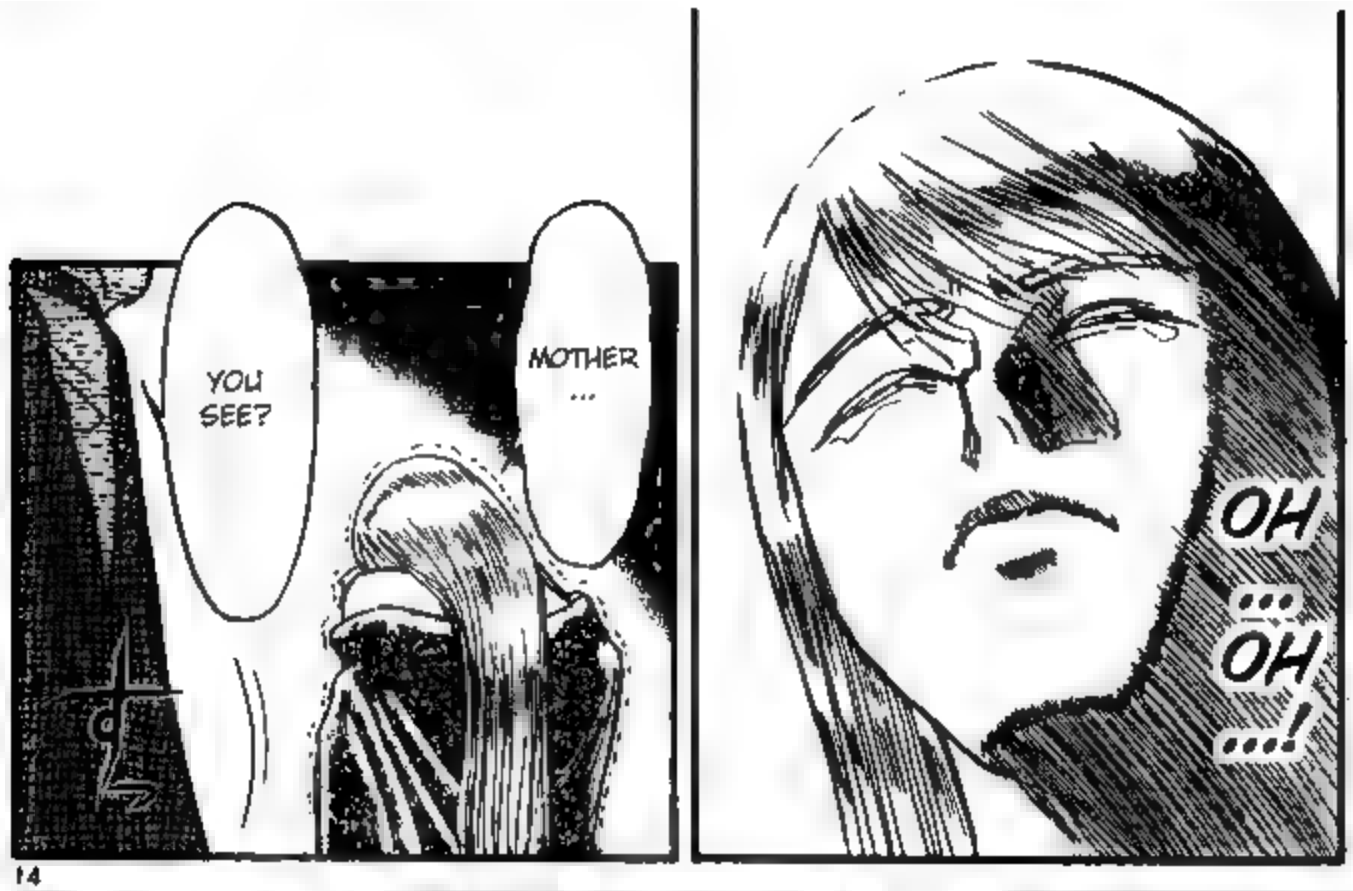
BUT YOUR DAUGHTER IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FIND THE MAN WHO TRULY LOVES HER.
SO YOUR MOTHER GAMBLED ON THAT HOPE. ALL SHE COULD DO FOR YOU WAS GIVE YOU THE MEDICINE.


MOTHER ...
YOU SEE?
OH ... OH ...!

.....
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU... WHERE TO?

IF YOU GET IT...
THEN LET'S BE OFF.
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NA-GASAKI MEN...
ARE VERY PUSHY!


YOU CAN'T STAY IN NAGASAKI NOW THAT YOUR SECRET'S OUT. YOU'VE GOTTA SET OUT ON A JOURNEY!


BUT YOU WON'T BE ALONE. OR RATHER, I WON'T LET YOU BE. NOT EVEN IF YOU TURN ME DOWN. YOU SHOULD KNOW...

I'M...
I DON'T FRIGHTEN YOU...?!

YOU...
YOU WANT TO GO WITH ME...?

SFX: GRIP, YANK

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OF LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

THEN... THEN YOU'LL WALK WITH ME?
BY MY SIDE, FOR ALL ETER-NITY?
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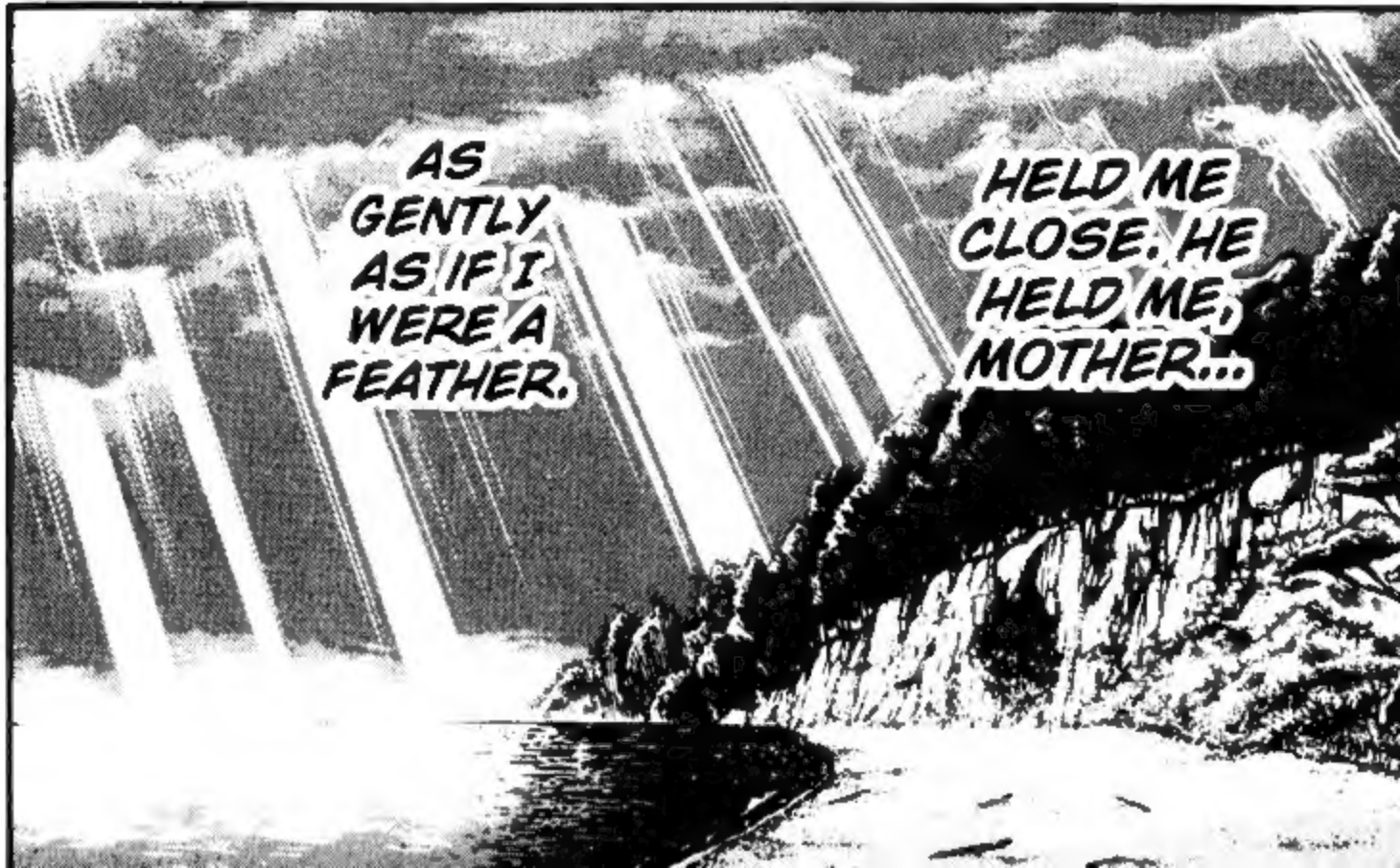
YUP.
AND PAST ETERNITY, TOO. FOR ALL TIME.

MOTHER, THIS MAN...

IF THAT TIME WERE USED FOR SOMETHING ELSE...




AS GENTLY AS IF I WERE A FEATHER.
HELD ME CLOSE. HE HELD ME, MOTHER...

translation by funnuraba.tumblr.com

# NOTES:

# Shoujirou drops his Saga-ben dialect in this chapter and continues using *watashi* instead of his usual *washi*. On page 17, he goes back to Saga-ben.

# In October of 2016, Kodansha USA will be releasing the first volume of Fujita's seinen series **Black Museum: The Ghost and the Lady**! The second and final volume will follow in December. If you're enjoying *Karakuri Circus*, this is a great opportunity to show your support for the creator and show that there's a market for his work over here! Full disclosure: his shounen series are published through Shogakukan, (i.e., Viz) so buying this release is not a direct pipeline to licenses for them. However, this is the first of Fujita's manga *ever* to be licensed in English since he debuted in 1989. Sentai Filmworks will also be releasing their dub and subs of the *Ushio and Tora* anime at some point, which is another great way to show your support. Please remember that each chapter of this manga represents an entire work week for Fujita and his assistants, and they deserve to be paid for their work in whatever way possible!

These scanlations have been uploaded *only* to Batoto so that I can remove them if the series is ever licensed. Please read them there instead of on websites that rip them and watermark them to make a profit off your views!

Thanks to Judash137 on the mangafox forums for removing the Japanese text, and to the anonymous person who tipped me off to that!

Any group with more experience or skill is welcome to take over at any time or to redo chapters I have already done if they are below the quality that this series deserves.